

# PRESS RELEASE

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## HIGHEST RATED GREENROADS PROJECT CERTIFIES IN KIRKLAND, WA

#### PROJECT MAKES AREA MORE ATTRACTIVE TO PRIVATE REDEVELOPMENT

KIRKLAND, WA – APRIL 20, 2015–The Greenroads Foundation is pleased to announce that the City of Kirkland's \$6.7 million Northeast 120<sup>th</sup> Street project earned the highest rating in the history of Greenroads. The project received 46 out of 118 points to achieve Silver Certification. The project is the Foundation's 21<sup>st</sup> project certified in the world since 2011.

"Other projects have rated Greenroads Silver, but no project has earned 46 points," said Dr. Jeralee Anderson, Executive Director of Greenroads. This project also participated very early on in the research and development of the Greenroads Rating System as a Pilot Project in 2010. "The City of Kirkland made a commitment right from the start to make this as green as possible and it shows. That's a testament to Kirkland's commitment to sustainability."

The Northeast 120<sup>th</sup> Street Extension Project is a new 880-foot extension of an existing street in a heavily urbanized area marked by car dealerships, a local college and more than 200 small and medium-sized businesses. It is at the heart of Totem Lake, a booming, busy business district. Existing signalized intersections were so heavily used, typical wait times exceeded 83 seconds.



Lakeside Industries used warm-mix asphalt: 15-30% lower emissions at the time of production and a cost savings of \$4000.

The five goals of the project included access, mobility, capacity, congestion, and bicycle safety. The project improved access for all modes of transportation with ADA compliant curbs, a planted strip that serves as a buffer between pedestrians and vehicles, and bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the street. Additionally, the bus



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access delivers improvements today and the infrastructure for future improvements in the form of a connection hub for buses. Intelligent Transportation Systems embedded in traffic signal systems at 124<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast, Northeast 120<sup>th</sup> Street and Slater Avenue streamline signal operations. In 2035, drivers will still wait less at intersections than they did in 2013.

"More route options and shorter wait times at Northeast 120<sup>th</sup> Street makes Totem Lake more attractive for private redevelopment," said Christian Knight, Kirkland's Lead Coordinator. "Private development will help the City of Kirkland replace the business district's superblocks with a grid network of streets and sidewalks. This is the vision Kirkland's residents and leaders first articulated for the district more than a decade ago."

"We got Greenroads involved early and it definitely influenced our design decisions," Jesse Thomsen, Senior Project Manager at Perteet, the design lead on the project. "We looked at LED lighting before it was cool. We identified non-vehicle links like bike lanes and pedestrian access."

"One major decision right at the outset was the replacement of 20-year pavement the use of 40-year pavement instead of 20-year pavement. Designers assume it's always going to be more expensive. But we worked with the client and looked at the TOTAL lifecycle cost and the benefit to the city. In the end, it didn't cost more to use Greenroads and the city got a longer lasting road. For the City of Kirkland, the entire project was a winner."



The City of Kirkland's Northeast 120<sup>th</sup> Street Extension Project Scorecard. The Project met all 11 Project Requirements and achieved 17 Voluntary Credits and is the highest scoring project to date.

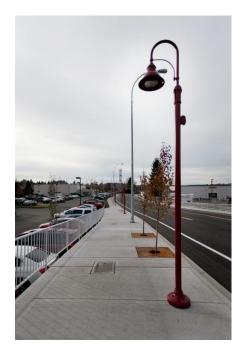
Other sustainable features of the project include:

- 92.7% of lighting fixtures and traffic signals use energy efficient light-emitting diodes (LEDs).
- 100% (4,063 square yards) of existing hardscape and parking lot materials was reused within the site as fill material and underlying pavement base materials..
- The warm mix asphalt pavement materials also contained 20% recycled content reclaimed from other road projects. The overall recycled content on the project was 15.9%.





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Kirkland earned points for energy efficient lighting and fixtures that comply with the international Dark Sky initiative.

Kirkland's outreach was the model of public involvement. "They produced a great video that walked through the entire project, included explanations from engineers and provided ample opportunities for public comment and input," said Anderson.

Overall, Greenroads was a great tool for communicating the sustainable items of our project," said Knight.

Everett-based Perteet, Inc. designed the project and provided construction management alongside the City of Kirkland staff. Sanders General Construction from Maple Valley was the prime contractor.

The project certification award is scheduled to be presented to the Project Team on April 24, 2015 at the Greenroads Foundation Annual Earth Week Reception.

#### ABOUT GREENROADS

The Greenroads Rating System is a collection of sustainable roadway design and construction best practices that address water, environment, access, community impact, construction practices and materials. There are 11 "Project Requirements" that must be completed in order for a roadway to be considered a Greenroad, as well as 37 "Voluntary Credits" that a project team can choose to pursue. After a rigorous review process, the Greenroads Foundation then assigns a project score based on the number of points earned by meeting the requirements and achieving credits. This score translates to one of four certification levels: Bronze, Silver, Gold and Evergreen.

Currently, more than 60 registered Greenroads Projects are pursuing Certification around the world, valued at more than \$6.7 billion (USD). To date, Greenroads has certified 29.8 centerline miles, 47.5 miles with bicycle access, and over 10.9 miles of sidewalks.

## MEDIA CONTACTS - GREENROADS

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## **ABOUT GREENROADS FOUNDATION**

Established in 2010, Greenroads Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, which advances sustainability education and initiatives for transportation infrastructure. As the developer of the Greenroads Rating System, the Foundation manages the certification process for sustainable roadway and bridge construction projects in the U.S. and internationally. For more information, visit www.greenroads.org and join us on Facebook at facebook.com/greenroads.

\*Images available upon request.

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